

# Case Study Acquired Brain Injury

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## **The Service User**

Alan\* received a traumatic brain injury following an assault in October 2009. He had moved from hospital into a neurological rehabilitation centre, but was having huge difficulties orientating himself and understanding what was happening to him. This resulted in Alan continually trying to abscond from the unit and having frequent episodes of challenging behaviour, which was not helping his rehabilitation.

## **The Requirement**

The Neurological Unit Manager approached Strand Nurses Bureau to provide additional support for Alan, as she did not have enough staff on the Unit to give him the one-to-one and sometimes two-to-one support he required.

Strand Nurses Bureau's Primary Care Specialist and local Branch Manager visited the Unit and met with the Unit Manager and one of their Support Workers, who was working with Alan. A partnership working approach was adopted with the unit and Strand Nurses Bureau's workers were thoroughly briefed prior to meeting Alan and trained in the distraction and de-escalation techniques that worked for him, as well as safety precautions required when supporting him on the unit.

## **The Outcome**

Initially 220 hours of care was provided by Strand Nurses Bureau each week and within 8 weeks this was reduced to one-to-one support only, while continuing to monitor the situation and progress made. After another 4 weeks, care reduced to 80 hours per week, only putting workers in during the day as Alan had started to sleep through the night and not wander from his bed. After another 4 weeks, Strand Nurses Bureau was able to withdraw its workers completely.

Over these 16 weeks, Strand Nurses Bureau had seen a dramatic improvement in Alan's behaviour. He was co-operating and interacting with the staff and the Unit's regular workers were able to maintain his safety and provide his rehabilitation support.

Strand Nurses Bureau was able to provide an efficient and responsive service that was flexible to the requirements of the service user. In return Strand Nurses Bureau's workers were able to undertake varied and interesting assignments and most importantly to make a direct improvement in the service user's life.

*\*Service user's name has been changed for data protection reasons*